



# Conseil International du Sport Militaire

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## Six out of nine nations go home with medals at the 27th World Military Volleyball Championships

*By Tanja Linton*

The CISM flag was lowered at Barnes Field House Saturday and handed over to India, the host of the World Military Games in 2007, just as the sun began its descent over this historic post in Arizona.

The 27th CISM Volleyball Championships drew to a dramatic close with six out of the nine nations participating going home with medals.

In women's competition, China was awarded gold, United States silver and Netherlands bronze. In men's competition, Korea won gold, Germany silver and Qatar bronze.

India, making their CISM volleyball debut at this tournament, dropped their first set to the Netherlands. India battled back in the next three sets to win the match.

Another team making its CISM volleyball debut, Qatar, continued to surprise and impress fans here. They took on China in a successful and exciting quest



Thom Williams

*Korea takes Germany in the final moments of the CISM Volleyball 2006 championships at Fort Huachuca.*

for the bronze medal.

The upset kings of the tournament, Germany, nearly pulled off their second major upset in as many days but in the end Korea was just too strong. They lost the first set to Korea, then pulled out to two victorious sets and gave up the fourth. It came down fifth set and Korea, fired up by more than 150 fans from the Sierra Vista Korean community, won the match.

Here are Saturdays results:

India defeated the Netherlands 20-25, 25-16, 25-21, 25-17

Qatar defeated China 15-25, 30-28, 18-25, 25-23, 15-13

Korea defeated Germany 25-23, 22-25, 23-25, 25-20, 15-10



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### Fort Huachuca Soldier Competes in 27th CISM.

Story and photo by Thom Williams

Debra McNamara, 38, an optometrist assigned to the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center has been selected to the U.S. Armed Forces Women's team and is competing in the 27th Conseil International du Sport Militaire or World Military Volleyball Championships that opened here last Saturday.

The last time the 5-foot, 10-inch McNamara from Riggins, Idaho played on the international stage was at the Military World Games in Zagreb, Croatia in 1999.

McNamara was one of 12 U.S. military women's volleyball players to be selected for the team that is

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Thom Williams

Members Chinese men's team being congratulated M.G. Barbara Fast at Barnes Field House.



Thom Williams

Debra McNamara, 38, a member of the U.S. Armed Forces Women's team.

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The highlight of CISM culture day Sunday is a professional rodeo exhibition at 12:30 p.m. at Wren Arena here. The rodeo is open to the public and admission is \$3 for adults 16 and over; \$1 for youth 5-15; and children 4 and under are free.

The rodeo features saddle and bareback bucking horse riding, bull riding and barrel racing. B Troop, 4th Regiment, U. S. Cavalry (Memorial) performs a demonstration that realistically depicts an 1880s cavalry unit.

The Tombstone Vigilantes recreate the Old West through historical re-enactments with authentic period clothing and professional stunts.

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competing against teams from Canada, China and the Netherlands.

McNamara decided to try out for the team because

the Armed Forces Volleyball Championship and the World Military Championships were slated to be held in her backyard and it would probably be her last chance to play at the international level.

"I run a one-person clinic and they usually they can't afford to let the optometrist go for two months to play volleyball," she said. During the training and selection process that started April 20, McNamara has seen patients at the RWBAHC, trained for the volleyball championships and cared for her children.

"I'm doing O.K. I think it's just more the pressure of running back and forth," McNamara said. "Like today when I came rolling in late and I don't have time to warm-up, that's when you end up getting hurt."

She said that the team is taking shape for the World Championships. Everyone plays their part, gets along with and supports each other.

"Sometimes the Chinese team makes you

a little nervous because they have some national-level players, but it's a good experience," she said.

"We've got to look at it like we're going into it to do the best we can to represent the United States and not worry that we're competing against national-level players and just play hard."

She began her athletic career playing high-school basketball.

McNamara attended college at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, on a basketball scholarship and walked on to the college volleyball team.

After a year at school, she enlisted in the Army and attended the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif. where she learned German.

She then became a Signals Intelligence Analyst, with her first duty station in West Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany.

After a hitch in the Army, McNamara went back to school at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, which was named Pembroke State at that time. McNamara played volleyball in the Peach Belt

Conference for the Lady Braves.

She was named to the All-Conference team in 1992

and garnered Conference Player of the Year honors in 1993.

McNamara's name can still be found in the Peach Belt Conference record books for all-time individual leaders.

In 1992 she made 167 blocks, and in 1993 she sported a .417 hitting percentage. She still sits in third place in the record book with a career .391 hitting percentage.

After attending school in Pembroke, N.C. she received a U.S. Army Health Professions scholarship to attend Pacific University College of Optometry in Forest Grove, Ore. where she earned her degree.

Following the World Military Volleyball Championships, McNamara will continue to move fast.

She'll be heading out to attend Command and General Staff College at Fort Gordon, Ga..